

苏州大学

2011 年硕士研究生入学考试初试试题 (B 卷)

科目代码: 241 科目名称: 英语 满分: 100 分

注意: ①认真阅读答题纸上的注意事项; ②所有答案必须写在答题纸上, 写在本试题纸或草稿纸上均无效; ③本试题纸须随答题纸一起装入试题袋中交回!

I. Reading Comprehension 40% (20X2)

Directions: There are 4 passages in this part. Each passage is followed by some questions or unfinished statements. For each of them there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. You should decide on the best choice and mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

Passage One

Questions 1 to 5 are based on the following passage.

In spite of "endless talk of difference," American society is an amazing machine for homogenizing people. There is "the democratizing uniformity of dress and discourse, and the casualness and absence of deference" characteristic of popular culture. People are absorbed into "a culture of consumption" launched by the 19th-century department stores that offered "vast arrays of goods in an elegant atmosphere. Instead of intimate shops catering to a knowledgeable elite" these were stores "anyone could enter, regardless of class or background. This turned shopping into a public and democratic act." The mass media, advertising and sports are other forces for homogenization.

Immigrants are quickly fitting into this common culture, which may not be altogether elevating but is hardly poisonous. Writing for the national Immigration Forum, Gregory Rodriguez reports that today's immigration is neither at unprecedented levels nor resistant to assimilation. In 1998 immigrants were 9.8 percent of the population; in 1900, 13.6 percent. In the 10 years prior to 1990, 3.1 immigrants arrived for every 1,000 residents; in the 10 years prior to 1890, 9.2 for every 1,000. Now, consider three indices of assimilation - language, home ownership and intermarriage.

The 1990 Census revealed that "a majority of immigrants from each of the fifteen most common countries of origin spoken English 'well' or 'very well' after ten years of residence." The children of immigrants tend to be bilingual and proficient in English. "By the third generation, the original language is lost in the majority of immigrant families." Hence the description of America as a "graveyard" for languages. By 1996 foreign-born immigrants who had arrived before 1970 had a home ownership rate of 75.6 percent, higher than the 69.8 percent rate among native-born Americans.

Foreign-born Asians and Hispanics "have higher rates of intermarriage than do U.S.-born whites and blacks." By the third generation, one third of Hispanic women are married to non-Hispanics, and 41 percent of Asian-American women are married to non-Asians.

Rodriguez notes that children in remote villages around the world are fans of superstars like Arnold Schwarzenegger and Garth Brooks, yet "some Americans fear that immigrants living within the United States remain somehow immune to the nation's assimilative power."

Are there divisive issues and pockets of seething anger in America? Indeed. It is big enough to have a bit of everything. But particularly when viewed against America's turbulent past, today's social

indices hardly suggest a dark and deteriorating social environment.

1. The word "homogenizing" (Para. 1) most probably means _____.
A. identifying B. associating
C. assimilating D. monopolizing

2. According to the author, the department stores of the 19th century _____.
A. played a role in the spread of popular culture
B. became intimate shops for common consumers
C. satisfied the needs of a knowledgeable elite
D. owed its emergence to the culture of consumption

3. The text suggests that immigrants now in the U.S. _____.
A. are resistant to homogenization
B. exert a great influence on American culture
C. are hardly a threat to the common culture
D. constitute the majority of the population

4. Why are Arnold Schwarzenegger and Garth Brooks mentioned in Paragraph 5?
A. To prove their popularity around the world.
B. To reveal the public's fear of immigrants.
C. To give examples of successful immigrants.
D. To show the powerful influence of American culture.

5. In the author's opinion, the absorption of immigrants into American society is _____.
A. rewarding B. successful
C. fruitless D. harmful

Passage Two

Questions 6 to 10 are based on the following passage.

Material culture refers to the touchable, material "things" --- physical objects that can be seen, held, felt, used --- that a culture produces. Examining a culture's tools and technology can tell us about the group's history and way of life. Similarly, research into the material culture of music can help us to understand the music-culture. The most vivid body of "thing" in it, of course, are musical instruments. We cannot hear for ourselves the actual sound of any musical performance before the 1870s when the phonograph was invented, so we rely on instruments for important information about music-cultures in the remote past and their development. Here we have two kinds of evidence: instruments well preserved and instruments pictured in art. Though the study of instruments, as well as paintings, written documents, and so on, we can explore the movement of music from the Near East to China over a thousand years ago, or we can outline the spread of Near Eastern influence to Europe that resulted in the development of most of the instruments in the symphony orchestra.

Sheet music or printed music, too, is material culture. Scholars once defined folk music-cultures as those in which people learn and sing music by ear rather than from print, but research shows

mutual influence among oral and written sources during the past few centuries in Europe, Britain, and America. Printed versions limit variety because they tend to standardize any songs, yet they stimulate people to create new and different songs. Besides, the ability to read music notation has a far-reaching effect on musicians and, when it becomes widespread, on the music-culture as whole.

One more important part of music's material culture should be singled out: the influence of the electronic media---radio, record player, tape recorder, television, and videocassette, with the future promising talking and singing computers and other developments. This is all part of the "information revolution," a twentieth-century phenomenon as important as the industrial revolution was in the nineteenth. These electronic media are not just limited to modern nations; they have affected music-cultures all over the globe.

6. Research into the material culture of a nation is of great importance because _____.
A. it helps produce new cultural tools if the nation
B. it can reflect the development of the nation
C. it helps understand the nation's past and present
D. it can demonstrate the nation's civilization
7. It can be learned from this passage that _____.
A. the existence of the symphony was attributed to the spread of Near Eastern and Chinese music
B. Near Eastern music had an influence on the development of the instruments in the symphony orchestra
C. the development of the symphony shows the mutual influence of Eastern and Western music.
D. the music instruments in the symphony orchestra were developed on the basis of Near Eastern music
8. According to the author, music notation is important because _____.
A. it has a great effect on the music-culture as more and more people are able to read it
B. it tends to standardize folk songs when it is used by folk musicians
C. it is the printed version of standardized folk music
D. it encouraged people to popularize printed versions of songs
9. It can be concluded from the passage that the introduction of electronic media into the world of music _____.
A. has brought about an information revolution
B. has speeded up the advent of a new generation of computers
C. has given rise to new forms of music culture
D. has led to the transformation of traditional musical instruments
10. Which of the following best summarizes the main idea of the passage?
A. Musical instruments developed through the years will sooner or later be replaced by computers.
B. Music cannot be passed on to future generations unless it is recorded.
C. Folk songs cannot be spread far unless they are printed on music sheets.
D. The development of music culture is highly dependent on its material aspect.

Passage Three

Questions 11 to 15 are based on the following passage.

It is widely believed that every word has a correct meaning, that we learn these meanings mainly from teachers and grammarians, and that dictionaries and grammars are the supreme authority in matters of meaning and usage. Few people ask by what authority the writers of dictionaries and grammars say what they say. I once got into a dispute with an English woman over the pronunciation of a word and offered to look it up the dictionary. The English woman said firmly, "What for? I am English. I was born and brought up in England. The way I speak is English." Such self-assurance about one's own language is fairly common among the English. In the United States, however, anyone who is willing to quarrel with the dictionary is regarded as either eccentric or mad.

Let us see how dictionaries are made and how the editors arrive at definitions. What follows applies only to those dictionary offices where first-hand, original research goes on ___ not those in which editors simply copy existing dictionaries. The task of writing a dictionary begins with the reading of vast amounts of the literature of the period or subject that the dictionary is to cover. As the editors read, they copy on cards every interesting or rare word, every unusual or peculiar occurrence of a common word, a large number of common words in their ordinary uses, and also the sentences in which each of these words appears.

That is to say, the context of each word is collected, along with the word itself. For a really big job of dictionary writing, such as the Oxford English Dictionary, millions of such cards are collected, and the task of editing occupies decades. As the cards are collected, they are alphabetized and sorted. When the sorting is completed, there will be for each word anywhere from two or three to several hundred quotations, each on its card.

To define a word, then, the dictionary editor places before him the stack of cards illustrating that word; each of the cards represents an actual use of the word by a writer of some literary or historical importance. He reads the cards carefully, discards some, re-reads the rest, and divides up the stack according to what he thinks are the several senses of the word. Finally, he writes his definitions, following the hard-and-fast rule that each definition must be based on what the quotations in front of him reveal about the meaning of the word. The editor cannot be influenced by what he thinks a given word ought to mean. He must work according to the cards, or not at all.

The writing of a dictionary, therefore, is not a task of setting up authoritative statements about the "true meanings" of words, but a task of recording, to the best of one's ability, what various words have meant to authors in the distant or immediate past. If, for example, we had been writing a dictionary in 1890, or even as late as 1919, we could have said that the word "broadcast" meant "to scatter" (seed, for example), but we could not have stated that from 1921 on, the most common meaning of the word should become "send out programs by radio or television." In choosing our words when we speak or write, we can be guided by the historical record provided us by the dictionary, but we cannot be bound by it, because new situations, new experiences, new inventions, new feelings, are always forcing us to give new uses to old words. Looking under a "hood," we should ordinarily have found, five hundred years ago, a monk; today, we find a car engine.

11. According to the text, the best authorities on word meaning and usage are _____.
A. teachers and grammarians

- B. dictionaries and grammars
- C. native speakers
- D. famous writers

12. The writers of dictionaries and grammars know _____.
 A. everybody wants to ask by what authority they have written that
 B. nobody is interested in what they have said
 C. there are hardly any people who are interested by what authority dictionaries are made
 D. only a few people understand that what they have said according to some source
13. Which of the following ways is mentioned for marking good dictionaries?
 A. collecting second-hand information
 B. getting information with existing dictionaries
 C. doing first-hand research to collect primary information
 D. recording native speakers' conversation
14. Which of the following statements is not true?
 A. The editor should read stacks of cards.
 B. The editor has the right to throw away some unwanted cards.
 C. Each definition should be based on quotations collected on cards.
 D. The editor sometimes can define the word according to his own understanding.
15. The most common meaning of the word "broadcast" seventy years ago was _____.
 A. to make widely known
 B. to scatter (seed)
 C. to send out a radio or TV program
 D. to cause to be broader

Passage Four

Questions 16 to 20 are based on the following passage.

Every parent dreams of having a "perfect" child, one who is smart, attractive, talented, obedient, polite and healthy in mind and body. Many spend money on preschool and private education to create academic advantage and increase the odds of acceptance into a prestigious college. It comes as a shock when our youngster has difficulty navigating this traditional path. An elementary school report card may contain "C"s and learning disabilities discovered. Or he or she may simply dislike academic courses.

A healthy parent learns to love and accept their child as he or she is and relinquishes personal and social expectations. Family resources – emotional and financial – are allocated to maximize strengths and remove obstacles to the full development of a youngster's potential. At no time is this parental resolve more tested than when their teen is diagnosed with a mood disorder.

Under normal circumstances, hormonal and social changes may turn the most compliant and even-tempered pre-adolescent into a defiant, moody, chronically irritated, angry, scared teen. One hour he may be sobbing that no one loves him and the next be excitedly talking on the phone about a

date. One minute she may want a hug and the next scream not to be touched.

For a small percentage of teens these normal moods become extremely intense, debilitating and require professional care. They become suicidal when depressed and out-of-control when manic. Eventually, a diagnosis of "mood disorder" – major depression or bipolar – may be made and a combination of medicine and therapy prescribed. Gradually, their whirlwind of emotional changes begins to subside.

It is not as easy for parents of newly diagnosed mood-disordered teens to find inner peace. Haunting questions of "why did this happen", "what could I have done to prevent it", and "how can I help my mood-disordered teen" often generate parental feelings of shame, guilt and inadequacy. If you are in such a situation, know first that you are not alone. Statistics indicate that 7 to 14 percent of children will experience an episode of major depression before the age of fifteen. Out of 100,000 adolescents, two to three thousand will have severe mood disorders.

16. Which of the following may NOT be the occupation of the author of this passage?
 A. psychotherapist B. chemist C. educator D. sociologist
17. The word "relinquish" in Paragraph 2 most probably means _____.
 A. come up to B. go after C. give up D. look for
18. Which of the following statements is closest in meaning to the sentence in Paragraph 2?
 A. Parents' decision to try their best to help their child fully develop their potential will be more tested by other things than by a diagnosis of mood disorder in the teen.
 B. Parents have no idea of what to do when their child is diagnosed with a mood disorder.
 C. Parents' decision to try their best to help their child fully develop their potential will not be swayed even when the child is diagnosed with a mood disorder.
 D. Parents' decision to try their best to help their child develop fully their potential meets the greatest test when the child is diagnosed with a mood disorder.
19. According to the passage, what is the major reason for mood disorder in teens?
 A. The high expectation of the parents. B. The heavy academic courses.
 C. The diseased genes passed on to them. D. Hormonal and social changes.
20. Which of the following is true about the parents of mood-disordered teens?
 A. They think they alone should be responsible for their child's mood disorder.
 B. They hold the society to be responsible for their child's mood disorder.
 C. They feel more shame than guilt on learning their child's mood disorder.
 D. They want to help their child but don't know what to do.

Part II. Vocabulary and Structure (15%) (30×0.5)

Directions: There are 30 incomplete sentences in this part. For each sentence there are four choices marked A, B, C and D. Choose the ONE answer that best completes the sentence. Then mark the corresponding letter on the Answer Sheet with a single line through the centre.

21. Ancestor-worship has been a time-honoured _____ of the Japanese.
A) custom B) rule C) tradition D) practice
22. The chairman doesn't permit _____ in the auditorium.
A) smoke B) to smoke C) to have a smoke D) smoking
23. That old man is _____ in his work.
A) efficient B) proficient C) sufficient D) deficient
24. No one would believe his story. It was quite _____.
A) credulous B) incredible C) credible D) incredulous
25. _____, the inhabitants fled.
A) Having taken city B) The city being taken
C) The city having been taken D) The city taken
26. The manager promised to keep me _____ of how our business was going on.
A) on informing B) informing C) to be informed D) informed
27. Mr. Wang complained about the _____ air-conditioner he bought from the company.
A) deficient B) inefficient C) ineffective D) defective
28. We finally _____ an agreement after a lot of hard bargaining.
A) arrived B) reached C) did D) drove
29. What happened? You are _____ pale.
A) dead B) death C) deadly D) dying
30. I should like _____ earlier.
A) to pay B) to have been paid C) to have paid D) having paid
31. I can hardly imagine _____ without gas and electricity.
A) living B) to live C) live D) myself to live
32. Since it is already midnight, we _____.
A) ought to have leave B) might as well leave
C) should take our leave D) took our leave
33. Jake and I like to watch the game on TV because we can see more _____ than we could from a seat in the stadium.
A) clearer B) clearly C) clear D) clearness
34. The teacher recommends that everyone _____ an English dictionary.

- A) bought B) shall buy C) buys D) buy
35. Many students _____ their lessons the night before the examination.
A) reverse B) revise C) review D) revive
36. My brother _____ a huge fortune from his business.
A) won B) made C) earned D) profited
37. The writer did not live up to his words. This sentence means that the writer _____.
A) did not live to see his book published
B) did not carry out his promise
C) did not leave a will
D) did not know if he should continue to make a living by writing
38. At that corner the bus stopped and _____ three people.
A) picked up B) got on C) picked on D) got in
39. By the time jet aircraft could fly at a speed faster than sound, train transportation in the United States _____ over several decades.
A) has declined B) declined C) had been declining D) was declining
40. This custom, _____, is slowly disappearing.
A) with many centuries of origin B) originating for many centuries
C) of many centuries ago origin D) which originated many centuries ago
41. _____ across the river, the teaching building is very beautiful.
A) Seeing B) Seen C) To see D) To be seen
42. The law requires that everyone _____ his car checked at least once a year.
A) have B) had C) has D) will have
43. Not only _____ the data fed into it, but it can also analyze them.
A) can memorize the computer B) do the computer memorize
C) can the computer memorize D) the computer can memorize
44. _____ was expected, he performed the task with success.
A) It B) That C) Which D) As
45. He gave his listeners a vivid _____ of his journey through America.
A) account B) tale C) communication D) plot
46. The shop assistant was dismissed as she was _____ of cheating customers.
A) accused B) charged C) scolded D) cursed

47. Vitamins are complex _____ that the body requires in very small amounts.
A) matters B) materials C) particles D) substances
48. Apart from caring for her children, she has to take on such heavy _____ housework as carrying water and firewood.
A) time-consumed B) timely-consumed
C) time-consuming D) timely-consuming
49. We have planned an exciting publicity _____ with our advertisers.
A) struggle B) campaign C) battle D) conflict
50. John doesn't believe in _____ medicine; he has some remedies of his own.
A) standard B) regular C) routine D) conventional

Part III. Translate the Underlined Parts into Chinese (15%) (3×5)

51. Not only marriage is a gamble, the bringing into existence of children is even more of a gamble. When we decide to have a child, for instance, we never know what the new child will be like. Then, the couples are just like babes in the woods, with butterflies in their stomachs, hoping that the child will be healthy. But if the baby turns out to have a defect, their hearts will sink and they then will regret about having made the decision. Apart from marriage, a journey to a new place, a drive on the road, a ride in an airplane, a business transaction, even a chance remark may result immediately or ultimately in tragedy.
52. But there are some other people who attribute success more to luck or opportunities than to perseverance. To their mind, some can succeed much more easily than others simply because of their good luck or opportunities given, though they may not as able and competent. No doubt, luck and opportunities are some sort of agents, which may speed up one's success. But they are only agents, no more than that. Actually opportunities only bring some sort of promise, never working out on their own; they have to be combined with hard and constant work to make success out of a man. After all, success usually comes to the prepared, or those who are willing to take advantage of the coming opportunities. And then, such people may be blessed with luck.
53. To renew America we must be bold. We must do what no generation has had to do before. We must invest more in our own people – in their jobs and in their future – and at the same time cut our massive debt. And we must do so in a world in which we must compete for every opportunity. It will not be easy. It will require sacrifice. But it can be done and done fairly. Not choosing sacrifice for its own sake, but for our own sake. We must provide for our nation the way a family provides for its children.

Part IV. Translate the Following Sentences into English (15%) (5×3)

54. 他在股市中赚了很多钱，所以他已经买了新房和轿车。(now that)
55. 尽管这些学生毕业后的道路会很艰难，但他们的前途却是光明的。(prospects)
56. 为吸引游客，这些受保护的古代建筑被修复得很漂亮。(restore)
57. 学校强调这一思想：家长和自己的孩子一起参加学校的活动是值得的。
58. 在求职时，求职者事先做好充分的准备是非常重要的。

Part V. Writing (15%)

Directions: For this part, you are allowed thirty minutes to write a composition on the topic: **Competition or Cooperation?** Discuss these two positions by using specific examples and give your own opinion. You should write at least 200 words according to the outline given below.

- (1) Some people think that learning to be competitive is important in our society.
(2) However, others believe that learning to be cooperative is more important.
(3) From my standpoint, ...